

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A process for production of image cards comprising:
printing of a sheet so as to obtain a printed sheet with a plurality of images disposed in a plurality of windows, and
punching of said printed sheet so as to obtain a punched sheet with microperforations along the perimeter of said windows containing the image,
overprinting decorations on said image windows after printing of the images, and
depositing a protective layer on said decorations so as to fix them and avoid removal of material from the decorations.
2. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein said overprinting of decorations takes place before said punching.
3. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein said step of overprinting decorations takes place by hot transfer of decorations from a decorative foil.
4. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1 wherein said decorations comprise one of pigments [[or]] and flakes of noble metals,~~such as gold, silver and the like.~~
5. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1 wherein said protective layer is a transparent varnish which is deposited on the decorations ~~by means of spraying or other means such as brushes, rollers, doctor blades and the like, and is subsequently dried by means of ultraviolet lamps.~~
6. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein said protective layer is a thin transparent film of plastic material.

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14. (New) The image card of claim 11, wherein the protective layer comprises a transparent film of plastic material.
15. (New) The image card of claim 11, further comprising writings on the back surface of the sheet.
16. (New) The image card of claim 11, wherein the decorative layer comprises decorative foil.
17. (New) The image card of claim 11, wherein the decorative layer comprises pigments or flakes of noble metals.
18. (New) The image card of claim 17, wherein the noble metals are selected from the group consisting of gold, silver, and a combination of gold and silver.
19. (New) A process according to claim 4, wherein the noble metals are selected from the group consisting of gold, silver, and a combination of gold and silver.
20. (New) A process according to claim 5, wherein the varnish is deposited by means selected from the group consisting of spraying, brushes, rollers, and doctor blades, and the varnish is subsequently dried by ultraviolet lamps.